

**Birmingham Theological Seminary
2200 Briarwood Way
Birmingham, Alabama 35243
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Fall 2019

PT 5602 Biblical Principles of Christian Education

Professor: Dr. Dave W. Matthews

Class Hours: 2

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Course Description:

A study of biblical applications to challenges in administration, teaching, procedures, and curriculum in Christian Education.

Topics include biblical and theological foundations of educational ministries; children, youth, and adult discipleship; learning theories and styles; educational methods; curriculum evaluation and planning; and educational administration.

Goals:

1. To have an understanding of the role of Christian Education in the local church.
2. To be able to facilitate Christian Education in the local church.
3. To be able to evaluate the Christian Education ministry in the local church.

Required Reading: 2 page assignment on each text.

Anthony, Michael J. *Christian Education: Foundation for the Twenty-first Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2001. What are some practical steps you can take from this book for your ministry? How faithfully do you think the author interpreted and applied the Scripture?

LeFever, Marlene D. *Learning Styles*. Colorado Springs, Co: Cook Ministry Resources, 1995. How will this book help you with your teaching preparation? What is your learning style? How did you discover it?

Powell, Terry. *You Can Lead a Bible Discussion Group!* Sisters, Oregon: Multomah Books, 1996. You will have to buy this one from the teacher. How should this book help in your teaching preparation and preparing discussion questions? How can you apply this process to your own time with the Lord? Not required for certificate students.

Grading:

25% projects

25% reading

25% final

25% class participation / attendance

September 9 – December 4

Dates	Chapters	
Sept. 9	Chapters 1-3	Purpose and Mission of CE
16	Chapters 4-9	Developmental Perspectives
23	Chapters 10-12	Teaching
30	Chapters 13-14	Teaching
Oct. 7	Chapter 15	Audio Visual & Creativity
14	No Class—Fall Break	
21	Chapters 19	Small Group
28	Chapter 22	Children's Ministry
Nov. 4	Chapter 23,28	Review/Discover Design
11	Chapters 21,24,27	Family Ministry
18	Chapters 16,17	Organizing CE Ministry
25	Chapters 20,31	
Dec. 4	Final	

Projects

1. Christian Educator Interview (Outside of Briarwood)
Submit a brief report (2-4 pages) of your interview questions and findings.
2. Class Discussion. Lead a 15-20 minute class discussion based on a text chapter. Include a 1-2 page handout with a summary of the chapter, how the chapter's content relates to Christian education, and two or three questions for discussion. (Sign up for chapter in class)
3. Write a new program to be used in your area of Christian Education in the local church. The paper should be 10-15 pages in length. It should be detailed:
 - who* - participants and numbers, administrators, teachers
 - how* - how will you train and recruit the teachers and the administrators
 - where* - location and equipment needed resources and curriculum needed
 - why are we doing this ministry?*
 - purpose statements objectives*
 - evaluation / follow up*

Paper should contain the following constituent parts: title page, table of contents, introduction, program questions (who, how, where, why) purpose, evaluation and bibliography. Not required for certificate students.

Examples:

- Evangelism for youth
- Day of Prayer or Weeks of Prayer
- Special Education
- After School or Evening Programming
- Summer Programming
- Family Oriented Programming

Subject must be approved by Dave Matthews.

Interview Questions

1. What is the mission/purpose of your church?
2. What is the mission/purpose of your Christian education program?
3. How do you nurture the individual's relationship to God?
4. What is your process for selecting teachers?
5. How do you evaluate teachers?
6. How do you train your teachers to nurture students toward spiritual maturity?
7. How do you maintain theological accuracy in the classes?
8. How would you rate your present program?

9. What would you do to improve it?

10. Taking into account new and present social trends, how are you adjusting to them?

BTS Format and Style Standards

BTS uses the Turabian style of formatting as a standard for papers. However, students should regard individual professor preferences if they communicate any variance in outlining their requirements for papers. Professors retain discretion in determining how “formal” a paper must be. In this technological age, information is readily available; make sure that you understand about giving reference sources the proper recognition. Please refer to the BTS Student Handbook section on plagiarism for guidance.

Bibliography

Anthony, Michael J. *Christian Education: Foundation for the Twenty-first Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2001. (246 pp)

Barna, George. *Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2003. (140 pp)

Barrett, Ethel, *Storytelling—It’s Easy!* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1960.

Carbonell, Mels. *What Makes You Tick: What Ticks You Off*. Blue Ridge: Uniquely You, 1997.

Choun, Robert., and Michael S. Lawson. *The Complete Handbook for Children’s Ministry: How To Teach and Reach the Next Generation*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 1993.

Clark, Robert E., Lin Johnson., and Allyn K. Sloat. *Christian Education: Foundations For The Future*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1991.

Downs, Perry G., *Teaching for Spiritual Growth*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1994.

Dunahoo, Charles H. *Making Kingdom Disciples*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: P & R Publishing, 2005.

Eyrich, Howard A. *Three To Get Ready*. Bemidji, Minn. Focus Publishing, Inc. 1996.

Gangel, Kenneth O., and James C. Wilhoit, eds. *The Christian Educator’s Handbook on Adult Education*. Grand Raids: Baker Book House, 1997. (358 pp)

Gangel, Kenneth O. *24 Ways To Improve Your Teaching*. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1986.

Gangel, Kenneth., and Warren S. Benson. *Christian Education: Its History and Philosophy*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1983.

- Getz, Gene. *Sharpening the Focus of the Church*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1974.
- Getz, Gene. *The Measure of a Church*. Ventura: Gospel Light Publications, 1975.
- Gregory, John Milton. *The Seven Laws of Teaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1971.
- Hendricks, Howard G., and William D. Hendricks. *Living by the Book*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1991.
- Horne, Herman H. *Teaching Techniques of Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1974.
- Keirse, David., and Marilyn Bates. *Please Understand Me: Character and Temperament Types*. Del Mar: Prometheus Nemesis Book Company, 1984.
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- LeFever, Marlene D. *Learning Styles*. Colorado Springs, Co: Cook Ministry Resources, 1995.
- Malphurs, Aubrey. *Maximizing Your Effectiveness: How to Discover and Develop Your Divine Design*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1995.
- Powell, Terry. *You Can Lead a Bible Discussion Group!*, Sisters, Oregon: Multomah Books, 1996.
- Rainey, Dennis. *Ministering to Twenty-First Century Families*. Swindoll Leadership Library. Charles R. Swindoll, ed. Nashville, TN: Word Publishing, 2001. (337 pp)
- Richards, Lawrence O. and Gary J. Bredfeldt. *Creative Bible Teaching*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1998.
- Richards, Lawrence O. *Christian Education: Seeking to Become Like Jesus Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1975.
- Richards, Lawrence O. and Gary J. Bredfeldt. *Creative Bible Teaching*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1998. (342 pp)
- Tobias, Cynthia Ulrich. *The Way They Learn: How to discover and teach to your child's strengths*. Colorado Springs: Focus on the Family, 1994.
- Towns, Elmer L., *A History of Religious Education*: Online. www.elmertowns.com.
- Wiersbe, Warren W. *Preaching and Teaching With Imagination: The Quest for Biblical Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1994.
- Wright, Norman. *Premarital Counseling: A Guidebook for the Counselor*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1982.

Walk Thru the Bible Ministries. 1) *Teaching With Style*; 2) *The 7 Laws of the Teacher*; 3) *The 7 Laws of the Learner* -Videos and workbooks. Box 80587 Atlanta, GA 30366.